MIN. OF HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITION OF THE HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1940.

To The HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1940, in its abbreviated form conditioned by the War.

Area	96,486 acres.
Population	18,210
Inhabited Houses	4,955
Rateable Value	£38,358
Sum raised by a 1d. rate	£176.9.10

STATISTICS

	M	F	Total.	Rate per 1000 population.
BIRTHS.				
Live Legitimate	101	112	213	12.68 (rate for England 14.6)
Live Illegitimate	8	10	18	
STILL BIRTHS.				
Legitimate	4	3	7	Rate per 1000 live and still
Illegitimate	1	1	2	birth. 37.5
DEATHS.	M	F	Total	Rate per 1000
All causes	117	147	264	14.49 crude
(Rate for England 14.3)				12.61 corrected
Infant mortality (deaths under one year)				
Legitimate	2	6	8	Rate per 1000 live births
Illegitimate	1	-	1	38.9 (rate for England 55)
Deaths from Cancer	22	17	39	
Measles	0	0	0	
Whooping Cough			0	
Diarrhoea (under 2)			0	
Puerperal causes			0	

The area comparability factor is .87.

The Birth rate is decreased, the infant mortality is markedly lower; all except the Birth rate compare favourably with those for the country as a whole.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Ages	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total	Admitted Hospital
Scarlet fever		1	5		5	16	12	4	5	2	1		51	31
Diptheria									1				1	1
Whooping Cough		1	1	1	5	6				1			15	
Measles	4	8	8	16	24	73	90	24	26	5	4		282	
Pneumonia		1					2		2	3	6	2	16	
Erysipelas				1							1	3	5	1
Meningitis									1		1		2	
Totals	4	11	14	18	34	95	104	28	35	11	13	5	372	33

The only feature was the extensive outbreak of measles, this was a gradual increase and spread across the district, from west to east rather than a simultaneous epidemic. Notification is good generally but in one part so late as to be of little service if any steps were needed to investigate and control an epidemic.

TUBERCULOSIS

Ages	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	1				1			
5			3	2				
15			1	1				1
25			1			1		
35	1	2	1				1	
45	1							
55								
65								
Totals	3	2	6	3	1	1	1	1

The number of cases remaining on the list at the end of the year was 40.

Notification of tubercle is satisfactory.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M	F		M	F
Tuberculosis			Pneumonia	1	3
Respiratory	1	1	Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1
Other Forms	1	1	Ulcer of Stomach		3
Influenza		3	Appendicitis	1	1
Cancer	22	17	Other Digestive	3	4
Diabetes	2	3	Nephritis	3	1
Apoplexy	11	21	Premature Birth		2
Heart Disease	32	39	Birth Injuries		3
Other Circulatory)			Suicide		2
Diseases)	3	1	Road Traffic	4	1
Bronchitis	9	12	Other Violence	3	4
			Other Causes	18	24

Cancer continues its steady increase, the figures this year are further classified into :-

	M	F
Bronchial cavity and oesophagus	4	
Uterus		3
Stomach and duodenum	4	1
Breast		6
Other Sites	14	7

GENERAL STATEMENT

WATER SUPPLIES.

The two schemes are well advanced, some delay has been experienced in the supply of machinery but service should be complete throughout the district in 1941. Owing to War time conditions chlorination plant is being installed but the softening plant is being deferred until after the War.

SEWERAGE.

Both schemes are complete, Laxfield and Stradbroke.

HOUSING.

Two were inspected by me, one was scheduled for demolition and the other for re-conditioning. One case of overcrowding was abated after inspection.

One case of child neglect was taken to court successfully with the help of the N.S.P.C.C.

WAR CHANGES.

The institution has been converted into a 1st grade hospital, it is also at present functioning for some civilian cases, for

temporary accommodation for evacuated persons on arrival and for the confinement of evacuated mothers when this is not possible in their billets.

A Sick Bay for children has been established in Eye for minor ailments among the evacuees.

Considerable numbers of evacuated persons of all ages were received. These were all medically inspected at the station or the Area School. That all went so smoothly was due to the good arrangements made by the Clerk and Sanitary Inspector to whom my thanks, amongst others, are due.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

The official services stationed at Eye remain the same. The official First Aid Points, i.e. those at villages with a population of 400 or over have been increased to 19 by the inclusion of Mellis and Wingfield.

HUBERT PEDLER,
M.O.H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR YEAR 1940

WATER SUPPLIES.

The main water supply for the Parish of Palgrave has been completed and the water is available to the Public from Stand Pipe Taps placed along the roadside. The number of consumers is small, but this number could undoubtedly be increased if the supply was made available for house connections. More users would be an advantage, as at present the use is not sufficient to keep the water in the mains changed as often as could be wished.

The Eastern Area Scheme is nearing completion, as is also the Western; work on the Eastern scheme is being pressed as the water shortage is more acute in that area. Both these Schemes are for Stand Pipe supplies, except in the Parishes of Stradbroke and Laxfield, where sewerage schemes have been constructed.

SEWERAGE.

The Laxfield Sewerage Scheme has now been completed and handed over. This is working well and has done away with the nuisances which existed for drainage to ditches.

Stradbroke Works still function well but would benefit by more Bath and W.C. connections; these will undoubtedly increase when main water is available.

Fressingfield still has its unsatisfactory condition in the Brook, beside the Low Road, near the Church. The filthy state of this sewer ditch should be remedied as soon as ever possible after the War is over.

SCAVENGING.

The Householders have still to deal with their own domestic refuse, together with tins and bottles and night soil disposal.

SALVAGE

The Government has directed Local Authorities to organise the Salvage of Waste Materials, and the Council has made arrangements to collect Paper, Tins, Rags and Bones from Parish Dumps to a Central District Dump. The Parish collection is organised and carried out by Voluntary Helpers. Up to date 27 tons of Paper, 16 cwt. Rags, 16 cwt. Bones have been despatched. The Public have been requested to flatten the tins, but although many do so, there are still many who do not. The latter reduce the sale value of the tins and this spoils the efforts of the others who flatten as required.

(23 tons of Paper has been despatched privately).

MILK PRODUCTION.

Many applications have been received for new registrations, and in all cases many improvements have been made in the buildings and methods employed.

KNACKER'S YARD.

The two knacking yards are still functioning in the District, and serve a useful purpose, with no complain of nuisance.

HOUSING.

Housing work under section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 is practically at a standstill. The inability to obtain materials in sufficient quantities to carry out a comprehensive repairs scheme, coupled with the doubtful advisability of carrying out extensive repairs, owing to the possibility of War Damage, has made it that only essential repairs are being requested. Demolitions are not now enforced, under Ministerial instructions and many applications have been received from people who wish to occupy these condemned properties. The Council has refused, on the ground that the housing needs of the District are not such as to merit their re-occupation.

EVACUATION SCHEME.

Many of the evacuees originally billeted have now returned home, but others who the Council rehoused in requisitioned properties still remain. No trouble has been experienced to date from vermin being imported into the District, and little trouble has been caused by infectious disease among the evacuees.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Thirty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Hospital, and the premises disinfected. Disinfection was carried out after fatal cases of Tuberculosis and Cancer.

Yours obediently,

H. AUSTIN REEVE,

Sanitary Inspector.